

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for supplying a fuel, comprising:
splitting-up the fuel at a separation device into a first fuel fraction in the form of a retentate and into a second fuel fraction in the form of a permeate that is aromatics-enriched; and
acting upon the separation device by a scavenging gas on a permeate side, so that a mixture of a fuel permeate and the scavenging gas is produced.
2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the fuel is supplied for operating one of a combustion engine in a motor vehicle and a turbine.
3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the fuel is fractioned into a fuel retentate and a fuel permeate by pervaporation at a membrane.
4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein, using a membrane, the fuel is fractioned into a fuel retentate having at least one of a first centane number and a first boiling point, and a fuel permeate having at least one of a second centane number and a second boiling point, wherein at least one of (a) the second centane number is lower than the first centane number and (b) the second boiling point is lower than the first boiling point.
5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein, on the permeate side, a membrane is acted upon by one of air and an oxygen-containing gas mixture as scavenging gas under one of normal pressure and superpressure.
6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
conducting the scavenging gas at least intermittently in a closed circuit;
bringing the scavenging gas into contact with a membrane; and
separating fuel components contained therein downstream in a fuel direction.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising, following contact with a membrane, conducting the scavenging gas via a ~~capacitor~~ condenser at which fuel components contained in the scavenging gas are separated.

8. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, further comprising, following contact with a membrane, conducting the scavenging gas via an accumulator material at which fuel components contained in the scavenging gas are stored temporarily.

9. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, further comprising charging the scavenging gas with waste gases of one of a combustion engine, a turbine and a fuel cell.

10. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, wherein the scavenging gas is made up of waste gases of one of a combustion engine, a turbine and a fuel cell.

Claims 11 to 19. (Canceled).